

45991 to 45994—Continued.**45994. DIOSCOREA BULBIFERA L.****Yam.**

"The aerial tubers of this yam are somewhat better for food than the ground tubers, according to Mr. C. F. Kinman. The flesh is yellow and rather strong flavored, often practically inedible. The aerial tubers are very tough skinned and keep for a long time."

45995. ASTRAGALUS SINICUS L. Fabaceæ.**Genge clover.**

From Yokohama, Japan. Purchased from the Yokohama Nursery Co. Received April 15, 1918.

Late Giant variety. A field crop very extensively grown for human food and partly as a source of soil nitrogen; it is closely allied to our alfalfa. Tender tips of the stems are gathered before the stage of blossoming is reached and served as food after boiling or steaming. It is known among foreigners as 'Chinese clover.' The stems are also cooked and then dried for use when the crop is out of season. Wealthy Chinese families pay an extra high price for the tender shoots when picked very young, sometimes as much as 20 to 28 cents per pound in our currency. (Adapted from *King, Farmers of Forty Centuries*, p. 128.)

For illustrations of a field of this clover and of a single plant, see Plates III and IV.

45996. ZEA MAYS L. Poaceæ.**Corn.**

From Torreon, Coahuila, Mexico. Presented by Mr. Carlos Gonzales. Received April 16, 1918.

"*Maiz de tiempo*, or *maiz pepitilla*."

Introduced for the breeding experiments of the Bureau of Plant Industry.

45997. PERSEA AZORICA Seubert. Lauraceæ.

From Ponta Delgada, Azores. Presented by the American consul. Received April 16, 1918.

A medium-sized tree found in the forests of all the islands of the Azores, especially in the island of Pico, at altitudes of 1,000 to 2,500 feet. The leaves are oval, with wedge-shaped bases and hairy margins. The fruits are quite small and egg shaped. (Adapted from *Seubert, Flora Azorica*, p. 29.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 43480.

45998. ERYTHRINA ARBORESCENS Roxb. Fabaceæ.**Coral tree.**

From Cairo, Egypt. Presented by Mr. Thomas W. Brown, director, Horticultural Section, Gizeh Branch, Ministry of Agriculture. Received April 19, 1918.

A low tree found in northern India, from Kumaon to Sikkim and in the Khasi Hills, up to an altitude of 7,000 feet. The light-green pinnate leaves are made up of three leaflets 5 to 7 inches long and nearly as broad. The racemes of vivid scarlet flowers, sometimes 15 inches long, appear during the hot season while the tree is still leafless. The lanceolate, curved, brownish pubescent pods contain 2 to 10 large dull-black seeds. The wood is white, soft, and light and is used for making boxes and toys. (Adapted from *Brandis, Indian Trees*, p. 227.)